



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
-----------------	-------------	----------------------	---------------------	------------------

10/824,521

04/14/2004

Steve Kanne

6588

31083

7590

07/07/2006

THOMTE, MAZOUR & NIEBERGALL, L.L.C.  
2120 S. 72ND STREET, SUITE 1111  
OMAHA, NE 68124

EXAMINER

CANFIELD, ROBERT

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3635

DATE MAILED: 07/07/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/824,521

Applicant(s)

KANNE ET AL.

Examiner

Robert J. Canfield

Art Unit

3635

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 April 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 7,9,11 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 14 April 2006 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 04/26/04.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

Art Unit: 3635

1. This is a first Office action on the merits for application serial number 10/824521 filed 04/14/04. Claims 1-20 are pending.

2. Claims 7, 9 and 11 are objected to because of the following informalities: in claim 7 it is unclear why there is the number "1" at line 2, in claim 9, "said bottom frame member" lacks antecedent basis, and in claim 11 "remarkably" appears to be a typo. Appropriate correction is required.

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 1-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 4,682,448 to Healey.

Healy provides frame assembly 36 having telescopic, slidably adjustable support members 34 coupled to bottom wall 52 and an enclosure means 10. A common axis could be drawn through two of the support members in either of a long or short direction. The outer surface of the upper support members provides a gripping means and the inner surface of the lower support member provides a receiving means. Casters 54 are provided.

Art Unit: 3635

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 8-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 4,682,448 to Healy in view of U.S. Patent 6,783,563 to Eckhoff et al.

Healy provides each of the elements of the claims except that the support members are removably coupled to the upper frame and bottom platform or that the support members extend from the a point proximal the center of the edge portions.

Eckhoff teaches that at the time of the invention it was known that adjustable supports between a lower platform 124 and an upper table frame 102 could be either permanently or removably affixed. Eckhoff further teaches that the location and size of the supports may be varied as contemplated by one of ordinary skill in the art and shows an embodiment in figure 4 having two supports located and approximately the center of the edge of the platform.

It would have been obvious at the time of the invention to one having ordinary skill in the art particularly in view of the teachings of Eckhoff that two centrally located supports is equivalent to four corner supports and could have been substituted for the supports of Healy. It would have been nothing other than an obvious choice of design (Eckhoff column 4, lines 28-30). Further, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art that the supports could have

Art Unit: 3635

been removably affixed to both the upper frame 36 and lower platform in view of the teachings of Eckoff (column 4, lines 25 and 26). It would have been desirable to assist in breaking down the device of Healy for storage and transport.

7. Receipt is acknowledged of the IDS filed 04/26/04. An initialed copy of the 1449 form is attached.

8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

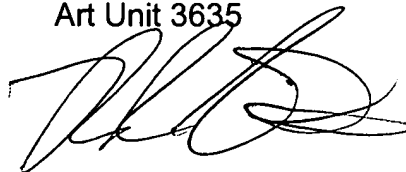
9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Robert J. Canfield whose telephone number is 571-272-6840. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Carl Friedman can be reached on 571-272-6842. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 3635

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Robert J Canfield  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 3635

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'RJC', written over the printed name of the examiner.

06/23/06